

for the American people. I have enjoyed working with three Presidents, achieving historic investments in clean energy with President George Bush; transformative healthcare reform with President Barack Obama; and forging the future, from infrastructure to healthcare to climate action with President Joe Biden.

Now, we must move boldly into the future, grounded by the principles that have propelled us this far and open to fresh possibilities for the future.

Scripture teaches us that: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under Heaven.”

My friends, no matter what title my colleagues have bestowed upon me—Speaker, Leader, Whip—there is no greater official honor for me than to stand on this floor and to speak for the people of San Francisco.

This I will continue to do as a Member of the House, speaking for the people of San Francisco, serving the great State of California, and defending our Constitution.

With great confidence in our caucus, I will not seek reelection to Democratic leadership in the next Congress.

For me, the hour has come for a new generation to lead the Democratic Caucus that I so deeply respect, and I am grateful that so many are ready and willing to shoulder this awesome responsibility.

Madam Speaker, standing here today, I am endlessly grateful for all of life's blessings.

For my Democratic colleagues, whose courage and commitment—with the support of your families—have made many of these accomplishments possible. That could not have been done without you.

For my dear husband, Paul, who has been my beloved partner in life and my pillar of support, thank you. We are all grateful for all of the prayers and well-wishes as he continues his recovery. Thank you so much.

For our darling children: Nancy Corrine, Christine, Jacqueline, Paul, and Alexandra; and our grandchildren: Alexandra and Madeleine; Liam, Sean and Ryan; Paul and Thomas; Bella and Octavio, they are the joys of our lives of whom we are so very, very proud, and they are a comfort to us at this time.

And for my brilliant, dedicated, and patriotic staff under the leadership of Terri McCullough, working together, the finest group of public servants the House has ever known, thank you all so much.

And, again, for those who have sent me here, for the people of San Francisco, for entrusting me with the high honor of being their voice in Congress.

In this continued work, I will strive to honor the call of the patron saint of our city, Saint Francis: “Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.”

In this House, we begin each day with a prayer and a pledge to the flag. And every day I am in awe of the majestic miracle that is American democracy.

As we participate in the hallmark of our Republic—the peaceful, orderly transition from one Congress to the next—let us consider the words of, again, President Lincoln, spoken during one of America's darkest hours.

He called upon us to come together, to “swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.”

That, again, is the task at hand.

A new day is dawning on the horizon, and I look forward and always forward to the unfolding story of our Nation; a story of light and love, of patriotism and progress, of many becoming one, and always an unfinished mission to make the dreams of today the reality of tomorrow.

Thank you all. May God bless you and your families, and may God continue to bless our veterans and the United States of America. Thank you all so much.

□ 1245

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

FEMA IMPROVEMENT, REFORM, AND EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3092) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to improve the provision of certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3092

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “FEMA Improvement, Reform, and Efficiency Act of 2022” or the “FIRE Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Agency;

(2) the term “Agency” means the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(3) the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(4) the term “emergency” means an emergency declared or determined to exist by the President under section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191);

(5) the terms “Indian tribal government”, “local government”, and “State” have the meanings given such terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122); and

(6) the term “major disaster” means a major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170).

SEC. 3. REPORT ON RELOCATION ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit a report regarding the use of relocation assistance under sections 203, 404, and 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133, 5170c, 5172) for wildfire risk to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Any information on relocation projects that have been carried out due to fire risks or denied by the Agency, including the number and value of projects either carried out or denied.

(2) A discussion of the possible benefits or disadvantages of providing relocation assistance that may reduce, but not eliminate, the risk of loss due to wildfires.

(3) A discussion of how the Agency may optimize relocation assistance when entire States or geographic areas are considered subject to a fire risk.

(4) An analysis of whether other mitigation measures are more cost-effective than relocation assistance when the applicant is applying to move from a high-risk to a medium-risk or low-risk area with respect to wildfires.

(5) An analysis of the need for the Federal Government to produce wildfire maps that identify high-risk, moderate-risk, and low-risk wildfire zones.

(6) An analysis of whether other mitigation measures promote greater resilience to wildfires when compared to relocation or, if additional data is required in order to carry out such an analysis, a discussion of the additional data required.

(7) A discussion of the ability of States, local governments, and Indian tribal governments to demonstrate fire risk, and whether the level of this ability impacts the ability of States, local governments, or Indian tribal governments to access relocation assistance, including an assessment of existing fire mapping products and capabilities and recommendations on redressing any gaps in the ability of the Agency to assist States, local governments, and Indian tribal governments in demonstrating fire risk.

(8) An evaluation of—

(A) the scope of the data available to the Agency regarding historical wildfire losses;

(B) how such data is utilized in benefit-cost analysis determinations by the Agency;

(C) what additional data, if any, may be pertinent to such determinations; and

(D) what, if any, alternative methods may be relevant to the determination of cost effectiveness.

(9) A discussion of the extent to which the decision process for relocation assistance appropriately considers the change in future risks for wildfires due to a changing climate.

(10) An analysis of whether statutes and regulations regarding relocation assistance by the Agency present barriers for States, local governments, or Indian tribal governments trying to access funding to reduce wildfire risk.